

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 FDRE-00

SCS-03 SCA-01 IGA-01 DPW-01 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /095 W

----- 093272

R 191441Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4517

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR EAID MOPS PINT SWEL SHUM SREF ET

SUBJECT: ERITREA: DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF BLOCKED

REFS: (A) ADDIS 5522; (B) ADDIS 5647

1. EMBASSY AUTHORITATIVELY INFORMED THAT ETHIOPIAN MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR IN ERITREA ISSUED PROHIBITION MAY 14 ON FURTHER DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF COMMODITIES BY VOLAGS IN THE PROVINCE.

2. AUTHORITIES APPARENTLY MOTIVATED BY CONCERN LEST DISTRIBUTED COMMODITIES LEAKED TO INSURGENTS.

3. BRITISH AMBASSADOR HERE PLANNED (AND HAS PRESUMABLY NOW MADE) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPRESENTATIONS TO MOFA. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, TENOR THESE

REPRESENTATIONS IS THAT ANY ACTION BY EPMG IMPEDE DISTRIBUTION RELIEF SUPPLIES LIKELY REDOUND TO ITS DISADVANTAGE WHEN TIME COMES FOR DONORS TO CONSIDER FURTHER COMMODITY ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA FOR RELIEF PURPOSES. AMBASSADOR ALSO PLANNED EXPRESS CONCERN AT ACTION DESCRIBED PARA 1 ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS.

4. FYI. LAST ICRC REP WAS SCHEDULED DEPART ETHIOPIA MAY 15, AND PRE-SUMABLY DID SO.

5. COMMENT: I PLAN TO TOUCH BRIEFLY ON ICRC/VOLAG/ERITREAN RELIEF ISSUE IN MY FORTHCOMING CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN IN ACCORDANCE REF B. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT ELF CURRENTLY SUFFERING FROM SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGE FOR ITS FIGHTERS WHO, BECAUSE OF DESTRUCTION OF VILLAGES, EVACUATION-RELOCATION OF POPULATIONS AND PROLONGED ERITREAN DROUGHT, LESS AND LESS ABLE LIVE OFF THE LAND. WE ASSUME THAT ORDER DESCRIBED PARA 1 ABOVE REPRESENTS EPMG DECISION TO ATTEMPT EXPLOIT THIS TACTICAL ADVANTAGE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE.

6. DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, CAMEROON AMBASSADOR DICKO, WILL CONTINUE HIS REPRESENTATIONS (REPORTED PREVIOUSLY) DURING CALL ON FONMIN IN NEXT FEW DAYS.
HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 MAY 1975
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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